



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/041,881	10/24/2001	Gary Rasmussen	043978-034000	4280
22204	7590	12/18/2007		
NIXON PEABODY, LLP 401 9TH STREET, NW SUITE 900 WASHINGTON, DC 20004-2128			EXAMINER SALTARELLI, DOMINIC D	
			ART UNIT 2623	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 12/18/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/041,881

Applicant(s)

RASMUSSEN ET AL.

Examiner

Dominic D. Saltarelli

Art Unit

2623

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 October 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 8-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 8-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on October 31, 2007 has been entered.

### ***Response to Arguments***

2. Applicant's arguments filed October 31, 2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

First, applicant argues that no combination of Wistendahl, Bartock and Lonnoth can teach the amended limitations, namely the limitation of "wherein all visual attributes of said hot spot, other than said geometric outline defining the hot spot, are assigned solely based on said template." Applicant supports this by stating the paint operation performed in Bartock designates the color of a hot spot and therefore cannot be said to teach the above limitation (applicant's remarks, page 7).

In response, the paint operation disclosed by Bartock does not necessarily designate the visually displayed color of the hot spot region. Bartock states, in col. 13, lines 59-63 "That is, a hot spot 96 underlies the image 60, and has associated with it certain pixel number 132 corresponding to pixels 47. The

colors displayed in an image 60 need not bear any relationship to the color code 134 designated in the color maps 102, 104." Therefore, further modifications of Bartock regarding the adjustment of visual attributes does not affect the functionality of the Bartock disclosure, who only requires the use of values that are visible to the processor, without regard of what is actually displayed to a user.

Second, applicant argues that there is no motivation to combine Lonnroth with Wistendahl and Bartock, because Lonnroth does not disclose templates or translating content from one form to another using templates (applicant's remarks, page 9).

In response, the cited section of Lonnroth discloses the use of XSL style sheets, and a style is sheet a type of template, used to format data to conform to a predefined style, such as displaying content using certain colors, color schemes, font types, and specifying object placement on screen (see Lonnroth, col. 8, lines 20-38).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 8-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wistendahl et al. (5,708,845, of record) [Wistendahl] in view of Lonroth et al. (6,826,597, of record) [Lonroth] and Bartok (5,737,553, of record).

Regarding claims 8, 13, and 19, Wistendahl discloses a method for creating links to enhanced content on a video stream (col. 2 line 30 – col. 3 line 50) comprising:

defining at least one attribute for a hot spot (user defines an association between an object and a hyperlink, col. 10, lines 5-15);

enabling a user to halt said video stream so as to provide a single video frame for viewing (col. 6, lines 62-65);

providing a graphical user interface for receiving from the user a geometric outline defining a hot spot on said single video frame (col. 9 line 66 – col. 10 line 5) and for receiving a URL link for said hot spot (the defined hyperlinks are to World Wide Web pages, col. 5, lines 9-15);

assigning enhancement attributes to said hot spot (col. 10, lines 5-57);

storing said hot spot and said attributes in a generic format (col. 4 line 60 – col. 5 line 15);

embedding said hot spot and said attributes into a video stream (the hot spots and IDM program are multiplexed together with video data sent over the same data transmission link, col. 6 line 40 – col. 7 line 13); and

displaying said hot spot using a first set top box on a video screen and allowing a viewer to access said hot spot whereby said viewer may access said enhanced content (col. 4 line 60 – col. 5 line 15).

Wistendahl fails to disclose creating a template that defines an attribute assigned to hot spots and translating said hot spot and said attributes from said generic format into a first format prior to embedding using said template, wherein all visual attributes of said hot spot, other than said geometric outline, are assigned solely based on said template.

In an analogous art, Bartok discloses a method for enhancing content wherein a template that defines an attribute assignable to hot spots is created (fig. 4, map 104, col. 13, lines 46-51) and used to assign attribute information to a hot spot (user's assign an individual color or color code to a hot spot object, which then links the attribute to the hot spot according the map, col. 13, lines 21-45), providing the benefit of improved linking between screen objects and executable attributes that is more processor efficient (col. 9, lines 29-35 and col. 14, lines 26-35).

It would have been obvious at the time to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method disclosed by Wistendahl to include creating a template that defines an attribute assignable to hot spots and using said created template to assign attribute information to a hot spot, as taught by Bartok, for the benefit of improved linking between screen objects and executable attributes that is more processor efficient.

Wistendahl and Bartok fail to disclose translating said hot spot and said attributes from said generic format into a first format prior to embedding, wherein all visual attributes of said hot spot, other than said geometric outline, are assigned solely based on said template.

In an analogous art, Lonroth teaches a method for translating data destined for a particular client into a format compatible with the client device (col. 3, lines 13-31) wherein content is converted into a format determined to be compatible with the client prior to delivering the content to the client (col. 7, lines 40-50 and col. 8, line 20 – col. 9 line 24), wherein all visual attributes of said data are assigned solely based on a template (the XSL style sheet is a template used to format the appearance of data being delivered to a client, col. 8, lines 20-38), providing the benefit of allowing a single application to be compatible with many different types of clients (col. 10, lines 25-60).

It would have been obvious at the time to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method disclosed by Wistendahl and Bartok to include translating data from a generic format to a first format prior to embedding, wherein all visual attributes of said hot spot, other than said geometric outline, are assigned solely based on said template, as taught by Lonroth, for the benefit of allowing a single application to be compatible with many different types of clients. Wistendahl teaches cross platform compatibility is accomplished by loading the desired IDM program from a separate peripheral device (Wistendahl,

col. 7, lines 29-36), a limitation which is alleviated by the teachings found in Lonnroth.

Regarding claims 14 and 20, Wistendahl, Bartok, and Lonnroth disclose the method of claims 13 and 19, further comprising translating said hot spot and said attributes from said generic format into a second format and embedding said hot spot and said attributes in said second format into a video stream (Lonnroth teaches the format is dependent upon the requesting client, col. 10, lines 35-40, and thus two different clients would receive two different formats, which requires a change according to the respective template [the IDM taught by Wistendahl]).

Regarding claims 15 and 21, Wistendahl, Bartok, and Lonnroth disclose the method of claims 14 and 19, wherein said translating is accomplished by an XSL translator (Lonnroth, col. 9, lines 1-24).

Regarding claims 12, 16, and 22, Wistendahl, Bartok, and Lonnroth disclose the method of claims 8, 14, and 21, wherein said first format is adapted to be displayed on a first set top box and said second format is adapted to be displayed on a second set top box (the first and second clients are requesting set top boxes, as taught by both Wistendahl, fig. 3, set top box 32, and Lonnroth, col. 10, lines 53-60, and thus the template information used in filtering would include

Art Unit: 2623

the types of set top boxes which can display the hot spots, Lonroth, col. 9, lines 25-38).

Regarding claims 9, 17, and 23, Wistendahl, Bartok, and Lonroth disclose the method of claims 8, 14, and 21, wherein said first format comprises a first set of visual attributes and said second format comprises a second set of visual attributes, said first set of visual attributes and said second set of visual attributes having at least one dissimilar attribute (Lonroth, col. 8, lines 20-53).

Regarding claims 10, 25, and 26, Wistendahl, Bartok, and Lonroth disclose the method of claims 8, 14, and 21, but fail to disclose said first format is adapted to a first language and said second format is adapted to a second language.

It is notoriously well known in the art to customize applications by translating the application into different languages, allowing people who speak different languages to understand the same display of textual or spoken information.

It would have been obvious at the time to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method disclosed by Wistendahl, Bartok, and Lonroth to include said first format is adapted to a first language and said second format is adapted to a second language, for the benefit of allowing people who speak

different languages to understand the same display of textual or spoken information.

Regarding claims 11, 18, and 24, Wistendahl, Bartok, and Lonnroth disclose the method of claims 8, 14, and 21, wherein said first format comprises a first set of URL links and said second format comprises a second set of URL links, said first set of URL links and said second set of URL links having at least one dissimilar URL link (the IDMs being customized for each client comprise hyperlinks to World Wide Web pages or other services on the Internet, Wistendahl, col. 4 line 60 – col. 5 line 15, and Lonnroth teaches different clients will receive different links according to the configuration database which defines services for each user, col. 4 line 57 – col. 5 line 3).

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dominic D. Saltarelli whose telephone number is (571) 272-7302. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 9:00am - 6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Miller can be reached on (571) 272-7353. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2623

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

DS

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dominic Datarrelli". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.